

in his spirits as they. Those who were matched against him in any game did not find it wise to think he was beaten till it was entirely over. He did not particularly enjoy sailing but he visited Europe and Bermuda and the Panama Canal. His excursions showed his wonderful recuperative powers and gave a literal meaning to the word "recreation". For example when he started for Bermuda last spring, he had high blood-pressure, and was worn down with work and agonizing abdominal pain, yet in a few days he was so comfortable and joyous and active that it was not easy to believe that his previous symptoms could have had an organic cause.

Throughout his life he read constantly, keeping well abreast of all professional advance and also of the world's progress in general. He had good musical ability. He had a keen sense of humor and caught the diamond flash of a joke wherever it might be; but for him to enjoy it, fun had to be clean and kindly. He faced the truth fearlessly but also he was brave and hopeful and did not forget that the prophecy of a physician may carry with it its own fulfilment. He did not think it wise that the patient should bear the burden of all the untoward possibilities of his condition and he was willing in a critical case to throw his own reputation into the balance if that might help to incline it in the right direction.

In 1882, he began the general practise of medicine in Boston; and in October of the same year he married Miss Abbie Josephine Ruggles of Fitchburg. Of this marriage I cannot omit to say that throughout his life it brought him happiness and inspiration. In 1884, he was appointed physician to out-patients in the Massachusetts General Hospital. Two years later, at the request of others and in accordance with his own preference he was transferred to the surgical side. His subsequent promotions, appointments, and honors have been enumerated in the BOSTON MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL of July 16, and in the *Harvard Graduates' Magazine* of September, 1914. They need not be rehearsed now. Our purpose is to discourse, like the storm-tossed Trojans, about our departed comrade. "*Amissos longo socios sermone requirunt.*" What sort of a man is it whose loss we mourn, or rather for whose example and companionship these many years we rejoice? He was big and strong, singularly well proportioned, and handsome. His blue eyes were keen but friendly. His countenance revealed strength, intelligence and refinement. His smile gave warmth and cheer. He had modesty, dignity, common-sense and unusual sagacity. He was high-spirited but he kept his temper. Under provocation, his voice became lower and gentler. He did an immense amount of work faithfully. He was efficient in emergencies but he did not wait for the rare occurrence of unusual needs, to serve others. The little duties and the little kindnesses were constantly and most graciously performed. One inferred his religion from his life.

He was a first-rate physician as well as surgeon, and he would have been eminent in his profession if he had never operated. The time came however, about fifteen years ago, when it was physically impossible for him to continue in general practise, so that he occupied himself with surgery exclusively, with brilliant success. His methods have been discussed elsewhere from a technical standpoint. What impressed the ordinary professional observer was his good judgment and thoroughness and the usually successful outcome. And, as was said of him at the meeting of The Massachusetts Medical Society on the day of his funeral, every patient became a friend.

His classmate, Prof. Hooper, describes him well, in the words of President Eliot: "A man of quick perceptions, broad sympathies, and wide affinities; responsive but independent; self-reliant but deferential; loving truth and candor, but also moderation and proportion; courageous but gentle; not finished but perfecting."

The world is better because he lived.

II.

THOMAS MORGAN ROTCH, M.D.

By CHARLES HUNTER DUNN, M.D., BOSTON.

THE death of Dr. Rotch on March 9, 1914, was a great shock to all of us whose close association with him had made us particularly interested in seeing his plans attain their full completion. His death marked the passing of one of that group of men who played conspicuous parts in the modern revolution of the practice of medicine. The pioneer workers in Pediatrics were but a small group of men, and among these, both as a teacher and a writer, Dr. Rotch had a wide influence upon his profession.

Dr. Rotch was born in Philadelphia on December 9, 1849; received his academic degree at Harvard in 1870, and his medical degree from the same institution in 1874, and served a term as house pupil at the Massachusetts General Hospital in the autumn of 1873. In 1874 he married Helen Rotch, the daughter of William J. Rotch and Emily Morgan of New Bedford. They had one son, Thomas Morgan Rotch, Jr., who was born on May 21, 1878.

At that period no young man's medical education was supposed to be complete without study in Europe, and Dr. Rotch spent two years studying in Germany, Paris and London. When he returned, there was no one in Boston whose practice was devoted exclusively to the diseases of early life. Disease in infancy and in childhood was not regarded as presenting differences from disease in adult life of sufficient importance to call for special knowledge. Dr. Rotch began his career as a general practitioner, but was soon attracted by the interest of the problems encountered in the struggle with disease as

manifested in early life. The earlier days of his work were marked by his earnest endeavors to separate his chosen specialty from the domain of the general practitioner, and to point out to his professional brethren the need of special knowledge in this field. His field of work was one in which a high death-rate had come to be taken for granted. Gradually, as time progressed and medical practice became more defined, pediatrics came to be recognized as a specialty, and Dr. Rotch was able to concentrate his energies on his chosen problems.

There was at this time little special teaching in pediatrics in the Harvard Medical School. In 1888 the University established a Professorship for the Diseases of Children especially for Dr. Rotch, his title being later changed to Professor of Pediatrics.

I shall assume that the work of Dr. Rotch as a teacher, writer, and organizer is sufficiently known to this audience to require but brief mention here. Among all his activities, I think he will always be known by his contributions to the subject of infant feeding. When he began to study and write upon this subject, our knowledge and practice were in a most chaotic state, and to him must be given the credit for the earliest exact work on feeding which was done in this country. He was the originator of the Percentage Method of Feeding, which, while at first opposed by some, has finally come to be accepted by practically all pediatricists. I believe it is not an over-statement to say that he was the founder of modern scientific infant feeding.

The two great interests of Dr. Rotch's life were the development and organization of the pediatric department of the medical school, and the development and completion of the Infants' Hospital. He displayed marked ability as an organizer; and those of us whom he drew around him could not but catch his enthusiasm. We never ceased to wonder at his energy, and his capacity for the regulation of the smallest details. It was difficult to help him in his work, for he wanted to do everything and attend to everything himself. He never laid aside these interests, even in his last illness, and indeed died in harness. During the last days of his life, it was in vain we tried to persuade him to leave the management of things to others. Every day I had to give him a full account of "how everything was going," and it was difficult to persuade him that anything had been attended to without him. Only a few days before his death, at a time when we believed that at last he had resigned the management of the matters which interested him, and when any effort of mind or body seemed impossible, he insisted on telephoning from his bed to Dr. Morse about some small matter of departmental routine.

Dr. Rotch, early in his career, became convinced that the treatment of disease in early life was so distinct from that of disease in adults, that it could best be carried out in a hospital devoted exclusively to children. Later he found

a marked difference in the hospital requirements of young infants and those of older children. The problem of nutrition in infancy was found to be of such great importance, that the nursing requirements for the carrying out of treatment are entirely different at that age, and that the conditions which a hospital for infants must meet are entirely different from those which prevail in a children's hospital. This led to the establishment of the Infants' Hospital, in its modest quarters on Blossom Street. It was the first hospital in this country to admit patients restricted to the first two years of life. Only those who have worked at the old Infants' Hospital can realize the enormous life-saving work which was carried out there under very inadequate conditions.

In 1902, Dr. Rotch's life was saddened by the death of his only son, who had just graduated from the University, and begun a business career. Tom Rotch, as the boy was known to his friends, had not been strong as a baby, and had indeed presented one of those very problems in which Dr. Rotch later took so strong an interest. I know that it was the study of his early life that first led Dr. Rotch's interest into the field in which he later attained so great a reputation. While Dr. Rotch never recovered from the blow of his boy's death, his finest qualities were never better shown than by the way in which he bore this bereavement. He surrounded himself with the college friends of his son, and threw himself with all the more energy into his professional work.

Dr. Rotch had many friends, and was greatly beloved by his patients. In the outburst of sympathy for him in his loss, a fund was given by his friends for the erection of a new infants' hospital as a memorial to his son. This movement has just ended in the completion of the new building near the Medical School.

Dr. Rotch had much to do with the development and administration of the Children's Hospital, but during the last years of his life it was in the new Infants' Hospital that his interests were centered. His plans were always far-reaching, he looked far ahead into the future. He possessed the imagination which could foresee the results of their fulfillment. I believe he was one of the first, if not the first, to foresee the group of buildings now surrounding the Medical School. He talked to me of this idea long before I ever heard it mentioned anywhere else. The one dream of his life was to see the new Infants' Hospital completed and opened, and to deliver the first lecture in its lecture room. After this his plan was to retire from all his other professional activities, and to devote the rest of his life to literary work, and to the management of the new hospital. It was in the director's room of the new building that he intended to pass his remaining years.

It is rather tragic that his hopes failed of fulfillment at the last moment. During his last years he overworked continually. The severe

strain imposed by the hopeless illness of his wife for four years was more than even his strong constitution could bear. He felt his strength failing, but did not say a word of this to anyone. To our anxious inquiries he always replied that he was feeling better. He concentrated all his energies on finishing his work, on seeing the new hospital completed, and on perfecting the organizing of his teaching department. The first acute breakdown occurred early in February, but he was soon up, and no one could restrain him from going to work again. His final illness began on February 24th, and a collapse on February 28th showed his condition to be hopeless. The new hospital received its first patient on March 3d, six days before his death. Although he failed to see the hospital open, I believe he was very happy at the last, for the building was so nearly completed that he had begun to realize the satisfaction of seeing his hopes fulfilled.

III.

CHARLES PICKERING PUTNAM, M.D.

BY WILLIAM BRADFORD ROBBINS, M.D., BOSTON,

DR. CHARLES PICKERING PUTNAM has taken a prominent part in medicine in Boston in the past forty years. During this time we all have come in contact with him in some way or other. We remember him for some particular trait or act or deed. He will be generally known for the great work which he did, in what might be called *social medicine*. His life work may be said to have been to uplift the human race, to make his fellowbeings happier and better in mind and body. He laid down his life for his friends, and his friends were *us* all.

He believed that the greatest good could be accomplished by organization, and therefore we find him a leader in many societies, which have to deal with social and moral uplift. He was one of the founders of the Boston Society for the Relief of Destitute Mothers and Infants, and was its president from 1904 until his death. Since 1875 he had been connected with the Massachusetts Infant Asylum as physician, and for twelve years was president of the board of trustees of that institution. He was one of the earliest to become interested in the Associated Charities, and it was largely through his efforts that the society is now able to accomplish so much.

He was very active in the reorganization of the Boston pauper institutions. To quote from Mr. Joseph Lee's article:

"From 1892 to 1897 Dr. Putnam took a leading part in the very important movement for the reorganization of the Boston institutions for the care of prisoners, of the poor, and of poor, neglected and delinquent children, being on the

special committee appointed by Mayor Matthews in 1892, chairman of the board of visitors of 1893-94, chairman of the standing committee on pauper institutions of the advisory board appointed by Mayor Quincy in 1896, a steady fighter for the reorganization bill of 1897. When the new system of separate unpaid boards of trustees was established he was appointed a member of the board of children's institutions, and was its chairman from 1902 to 1911, performing in that capacity a great and harassing, though invisible and unappreciated, service to his fellow-citizens.

"Dr. Putnam was among the earliest supporters of Dr. James R. Chadwick in founding the Boston Medical Library, of which he was an original member in 1875, an incorporator in 1877, and which he served upon important committees until his death. He helped to organize and carry on the Directory of Nurses. He was active in the campaign against tuberculosis and a director of the Mental Hygiene Association. He was one of the first to take up broad social questions from the legislative end, was the first experienced charity worker to enlist in the Massachusetts Civic League, and helped secure the establishment of the State Board of Insanity, the taking over of the Boston Insane Hospital by the state, medical inspection in the public schools of Massachusetts, playgrounds, better probation service, the juvenile court, better laws dealing with tramps, with drunkards, and many others."

Besides all these societies he was affiliated with many medical societies. He was president of the American Pediatric Society in 1898.

During all these years he attended assiduously to a large practise. He seemed never to tire, and no matter what time of the day or night he was called, he had always the same quiet thoughtful, calm, self-contained manner. No matter how busy he was, he seemed to have unlimited time to spend on the details of kindness, the little kindnesses which most leave undone or despise. He never appeared to be in a hurry, and left the impression that this visit was the only one he had to make. He seemed to know by instinct what would comfort most. I have seen him sit down on the floor of the nursery and work over some complicated toy for an hour at a time, so that in the morning when the sick child awoke he would find his toy all fixed and ready to be played with.

How much he loved the children was shown by the way the children loved him.

He had a great faith in therapeutics and his choice of drugs was adapted to suit the individual case with rare skill. He respected the idiosyncrasies of his patients, about drugs or other forms of treatment, but he was very firm when he knew that a certain course of treatment was essential. He was constantly studying to increase his knowledge of new drugs or new combinations of old drugs, which might give better results, or the same results in a less obnoxious manner.